OCT 2 5 2005

ENDIUS.061A

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Alan E. Shluzas

Appl. No.

: 10/075668

Filed

February 13, 2002

For

: APPARATUS FOR

CONNECTING A

LONGITUDINAL MEMBER TO

A BONE PORTION

Examiner

A. Ramana

Group Art Unit

3732

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed August 25, 2005, Applicant respectfully submits the following claim amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.